

MARRIAGE & DIVORCE STATISTICS

MARRIAGE RATE

There were 2,585 marriages in Lancaster County in 2000. This translates into a rate of 10.3 per 1,000 population. The Nebraska rate was 7.8 per 1,000 in 2000. The marriage rates for Nebraska and Lancaster County have remained relatively stable for the past five years (Figure 19).

The most common months of marriage were July, June and September respectively (Table 37).

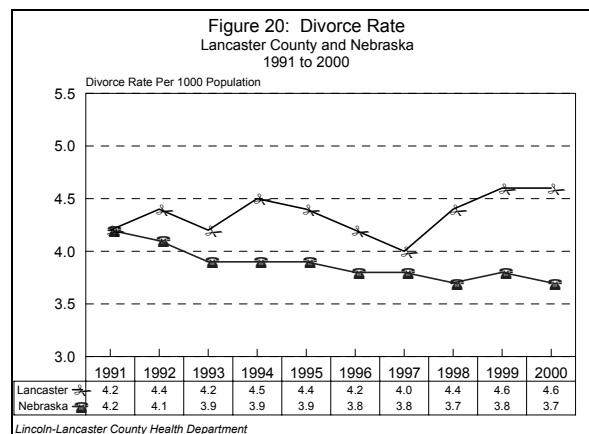
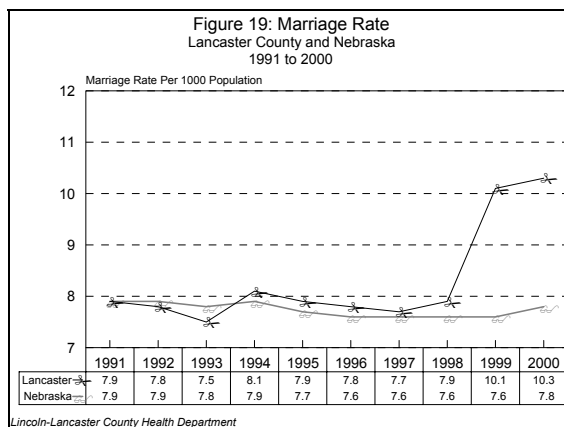
AGE AND RACE

In 2000, 2,391 (92.5%) grooms and 2,431 (94.0%) brides were White. The remaining 184 grooms and 143 brides were of other races. 10 grooms and 11 brides did not report any race (Table 38).

Table 37.
Marriages by Month
Lancaster County, 2000.

Month	Frequency	Percent
January	98	3.8
February	142	5.5
March	132	5.1
April	165	6.4
May	290	11.2
June	332	12.8
July	336	13
August	287	11.1
September	330	12.8
October	219	8.5
November	124	4.8
December	130	5
Total	2585	100

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In 2000, the mean (average) age for Lancaster County grooms was 30.6 years. The mean age for brides was 28.7 years.

The mean marriage age of White males and females was 30.5 and 28.7 years, respectively. The mean age for Black males and females was 31.3 and 28.5 years, respectively. The mean marriage age for American Indian males and females was 30.2 and 33.8, respectively. The mean marriage age was 30.5 for Asian males and 26.8 for Asian females.

EDUCATION

Grooms and brides had a mean education of 14.2 years or two years of education beyond high school. The most frequent educational level was equivalent to a high school education (12 years) for males and under graduation (16 years) for females.

DIVORCE RATE

The 2000 marriage/divorce ratio in Lancaster County was 2.2/1 (Table 39), indicating that there were 2.2 times as many marriages as divorces.

There were 1,155 divorces in Lancaster County in 2000. This represents a rate of 4.6 per 1,000 population, a rate similar to those of the previous decade (Figure 20). The 2000 divorce rate for Nebraska was 3.7 per 1,000 population.

Among males divorced in 2000, 67.4 percent were divorced for the first time, while among females, 66.9 percent divorced for the first time.

AGE AND RACE

The average age of divorced males was 37.9 years and the average age of divorced females was 35.5 years. The median age of divorced males was 37.0 years, while the median age of divorced females was 35.0 years. The average age of first time divorced males and females was 35.3 and 33.2 years, respectively.

Of the divorces where race was reported in 2000, 89.0 percent divorces involved White males and 91.0 percent of divorces involved White females. Marriage/divorce ratios ranged from 1.8 for Black males to 2.6 for Asian males (Table 39).

SETTLEMENT

In 2000, divorce settlements ranged from no settlement to alimony, child support, property, or a combination of settlements. Table 41 lists the types and frequencies of divorce settlements. Divorces most commonly involved property settlement only (41.7%) or property settlement and child support (31.5%).

CHILDREN OF DIVORCE & CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

Of the 1,155 divorces in 2000, 585 (52.6%) occurred in households with children under the age of 18. These divorces involved 1,154 children (0.99 children per divorce).

Of the 478 divorce settlements involving children during 2000, the divorced woman was awarded exclusive custody of all or some children in 410 (85.8%) of the cases. Divorced men were awarded exclusive custody of some or all children in 44 (9.2%) of these divorces.

In 24 (5.0%) of divorces, joint custody was awarded for some of all of the children. In 2 (0.4%) of divorces, some or all children were awarded to a party other than the divorced man or woman.

Table 38.
Marriage by Sex and Race
Lancaster County, 2000

Race	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
White	2391	92.5	2431	94
Black	90	3.5	43	1.7
Am.Indian	19	0.7	18	0.7
Asian	70	2.7	78	3
Other/Unknown	15	0.6	15	0.6
Total	2585	100	2585	100

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Table 39.
Marriages/ Divorce Ratio
Race of Male
Lancaster County, 2000

Race	Number of Mariages/ Divorce	Ratio
White	2391/1028	2.3/1
Black	90/49	1.8/1
Am Indian	19/13	1.5/1
Asian	70/27	2.6/1
Unknow/Other	15/38	0.4/1
Total	2585/1155	2.2/1

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Table 40.
Number or Times married at the time of Divorce.
Males and Females
Lancaster County, 2000

Times Married	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
1	778	67.4	773	66.9
2	270	23.4	259	22.4
3	52	4.5	60	5.2
4	5	0.4	17	1.5
5	7	0.6	4	0.3
6 or more	1	0.1	3	0.3
Not Classifiable	40	3.5	39	3.4
Total	1155	100	1155	100

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Table 41.
Types of Settlements
Lancaster County, 2000

Settlement	Frequency	Percentage
None	126	10.9
Alimony	3	0.3
Child Support	54	4.7
Property Settlement	482	41.7
Alimony and Child support	7	0.6
Alimony and Property Settlement	50	4.3
Child Support and Property Settlement	364	31.5
Alimony, Child Support and Property Settlement	60	5.2
All Other	1	0.1
Unknown and Not Classifiable	8	0.7
Total	1155	100

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